

## CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WILL HEAR EXCURSION BOAT PLANS

**MAKES OTTAWA MECCA OF  
TOURIST TRAVEL TO  
STATE PARK**

**CAPT. SWAIN COMING**

EXCURSION BOAT WOULD CARRY  
SEVEN HUNDRED PEOPLE ON  
TRIPS TO STARVED ROCK--  
WANT CITY'S CO-OPERATION.

Make Ottawa the mecca for Starved Rock tourists—and Ottawa will have an excellent chance of accomplishing this purpose if Swain brothers, who propose to establish an excursion line between here and the state park are given the co-operation of the people of the city. Swain will be here Thursday to confer with the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce relative to establishing a boat service between Ottawa and the historic park. The plans of the Swain's were laid before the Rotary Club last fall and were looked upon favorably. Since that time the Chamber of Commerce has been formed and now it will assume charge of the work.

Captain Swain and his sons proposed to build an excursion boat with a capacity for six or seven hundred people. The craft, it is said, would not draw more than two feet of water, thus it would be able to travel the Illinois at all times. It is the intention of the Swains to establish a landing at the rear of the Clifton hotel where excursionists from Chicago and other eastern points might complete the last leg of their trip down the scenic river and view the various points of historic interest.

The boat will be equipped with what is known as a telescope smokestack, thus making it possible for them to be lowered when the boat is passing under the bridges in Ottawa. The trip down stream, it is said, could be made in about forty minutes or less. On excursion trips, where parties have chartered the boat, stops would be made at all the canyons. On the regular runs of the boat the only stop would be made at the state park.

Ottawa the Mecca.  
With the establishing of the excursion line it would be incentive for tourists to stop at Ottawa and make the river trip to the park. This would cause thousands of tourists to visit Ottawa during the summer months and would give the city much advertising.

There is no question but what the excursion line would be a good thing for Ottawa and the Chamber of Commerce will give the matter its earnest consideration.  
Several years ago, before the state purchased Starved Rock, the steamer Watkins used to ply between here and the state park and river excursions were quite popular at that time.

## WM. NAGLE DIES OF SPINAL MENINGITIS

William Nagle, aged fifty years, a farmer residing south of Grand Ridge, died yesterday afternoon following a five days' illness of spinal meningitis. Mr. Nagle was taken suddenly ill last Thursday.

He was born in Grand Rapids township and resided there his entire life. He leaves surviving his wife and five children, Richard, Beatrice, Thomas, William and Josephine, all at home.

The funeral will be held Friday morning at 9 o'clock at the Grand Rapids church. Interment will be in St. Columba cemetery.

## THREE BIG NIGHTS AT CHRISTIAN CHURCH REVIVAL.

At the Christian church, corner of West Jefferson and Chestnut streets tonight, Rev. H. H. Jenner, of Cofax, will preach. Thursday night Evangelist Vese will tell about "The Campbellites." And Friday night, "Christian Baptism."

## ILL. STEEL CO. IS AFTER UTICA LAND

The Illinois Steel Co. is endeavoring to purchase the eighty acres of clay land owned by Donald Frazier, south of the village of Utica. They have made Mr. Frazier an offer of \$300 per acre for the eighty acres. Mr. Frazier has refused the offer. The company proposed to mine the clay and ship it to its various plants.

## U. S. INSISTS THAT GERMANY RELEASE INTERRED SAILORS

WASHINGTON ALERT FOR NEWS  
FROM BARRED ZONE—"NEXT  
STEP" COMES AFTER AMERI-  
CAN CRAFT IS SUNK

Washington, D. C., Feb. 14.—Release of the Yarrowdale prisoners is the immediate proposition occupying the attention of the United States in the new Germany controversy. Officials today made it very plain that the latest inquiry dealing with their status means far more than appears on the surface. The United States will insist that they be released. Detention under the present circumstances is declared in official quarters to be an "unfriendly act." Pending an answer to the inquiry as to their status sent forward thru the Swiss minister, however, officials decline to discuss the plans that have been evolved about them.

Reports of a division among members of the cabinet as to the question of arming American vessels alone cleared up today. It was stated that the entire cabinet accepted as a common right that American vessels are entitled to arm for defense. Legislation enacted at the time of the war between the states admittedly gave that privilege. The question causing division was whether an American armed merchantmen could fire at a submarine without "committing an act of war."

The majority of the cabinet is understood to have taken the position that the use of guns would be "an act of defense" even though it should be followed by a declaration of war by Germany which would constitute that action as hostile.

Administration officials today were watching the war zone very closely. American vessels are approaching it. February 12 was the "last day of grace" allowed neutral shipping according to the official announcements from Berlin. It can be asserted upon the highest authority, that President Wilson will go before congress and outline his next step the moment that an American vessel is sunk in defiance of international law.

The State Department again is pressing Ambassador Penfield at Vienna for information as to his status. There has been no word from him since the break with Germany. No information as yet is available, but that the situation is considered serious is indicated by the fact that inquiries to him have now been addressed thru neutral sources. Since the break with Germany a week ago Saturday only one message has been received from our Vienna representative and no word has come from Ambassador Elkins at Constantinople.

It developed today that complete investigation of all the circumstances surrounding the purported offer of Germany to reopen the submarine situation with the United States is in progress. That certain newspapers and diplomatic sources were used in that connection now is certain. Berlin is understood to have repudiated the entire matter and to have asserted that if an offer was made it was without the sanction of the imperial government. It was in anticipation of such a disavowal that the State Department called the Swiss minister to put the suggestion in writing Secretary Lansing and his assistants having been suspicious of the entire proposition because it was made public in inspired circles before it was communicated to the State Department in any way. Unless, however, it shall develop that the entire matter was developed by Americans it is unlikely that any action will be taken by this government at the present time. When the immediate crisis has passed, however, a complete statement may be made.

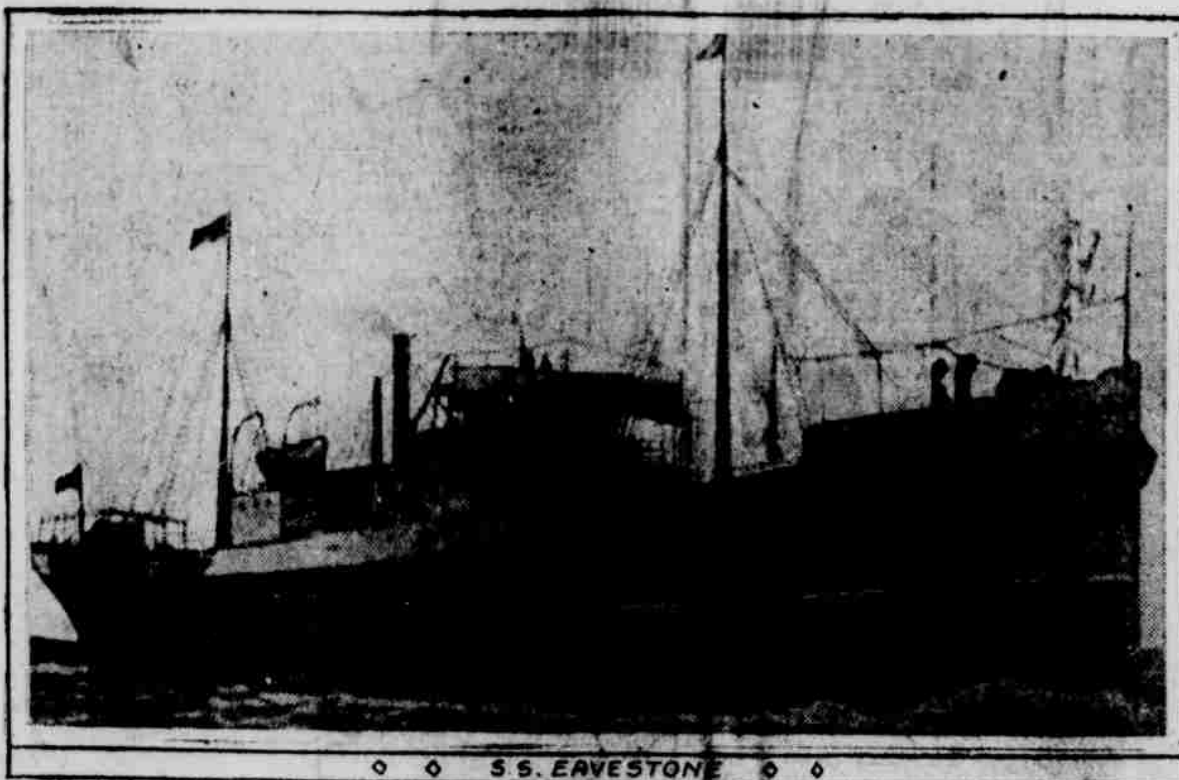
Arrest Crank on Frederick VIII.

Hoboken, N. J., Feb. 14.—An unidentified man, said to be a "crank" was arrested here today while endeavoring to get aboard the Scandinavian-American liner Frederick VIII, which will carry Count von Bernstorff and his official family to Copenhagen. The man said he had "a letter" which he wanted to give the dismissed ambassador. He was locked up.

China to Break Relations.

London, Feb. 14.—A diplomatic break between China and Germany can be momentarily expected, according to the Peking correspondent of the

## LIFE OF BALTIMORE MAN TAKEN WHEN U BOAT SANK THE EAVESTONE



London reports said that an American seaman in the crew of the British steamship Eavestone, trying to escape in an open boat, had been killed by gunfire from a German submarine. He was Richard Wallace of Baltimore. The London story read:

"The Eavestone was sunk by shells fired by the submarine's guns. As the ship was sinking the crew abandoned her. The

German turned their guns upon the open boats in which the crew took refuge. The captain and three seamen, of whom Wallace was one, were killed, and the second mate was severely wounded."

The Eavestone was a new steel steamer, built in 1912, and was owned by Furness, Withy & Co., limited, of Liverpool. She was of 1,500 tons gross and 15 feet long. She had been used recently in carrying oil from southern and gulf ports. She sailed

from Galveston with cargo oil on Dec. 15, stopped at Newport News for coal and sailed from the latter port on Dec. 2 for Liverpool.

H. C. Blackiston, agent for the line in New York, said that he had lost track of the Eavestone lately and did not know whether she was on the voyage from this country to England or on some other business, possibly between England and some European ports.

## CHANGE PLEA IN MIDST OF TRIAL

LA SALLE THUGS THROW SELVES  
UPON MERCIES OF COURT IN  
PREFERENCE TO TAKING  
CHANCES WITH JURY.

Affairs in the state's prosecution of Cyril Spriggs and James King, La Salle highwaymen, in the Circuit court, took a sudden change late yesterday afternoon at the conclusion of the prosecution of the two defendants. From defending themselves against William J. Conway's charge of robbing them, the two men suddenly decided to enter a plea of guilty and throw themselves upon the mercies of the court.

The trial had proceeded to the point where the defense was about to present its case when the switch from a "not guilty" to a "guilty" plea was made. The jurors were in possession of all the prosecution's evidence, and it must have been pretty incriminating, considering that Spriggs and King were not only willing, but anxious to drop from pretended innocence to an admission of guilt, just when they were about to present their side of the case.

The state in accepting a plea of guilty permitted the defense to reduce the charge from robbery to larceny and in passing sentence upon them the court took into consideration the part each of the two men played in the attack on Conway. After weighing these matters carefully King, the larger of the two defendants, was given eight months in the county jail and Spriggs was remanded with only three months' servitude ahead of him. Conway, while on the stand, told of his being robbed of \$25 by the defendants. Two indictments were returned against them, one for robbery and the other for larceny. The offense was committed in a La Salle rooming house, while Conway was under the influence of liquor. The money was extracted from his pockets as he lay dozing. The robbery occurred October 25. Indictment No. 2 will be nolle prossed by the state's attorney.

Times. Cabling from the Chinese capital under date of February 9, the correspondent states that President Wilson's invitation to neutrals to break with the Kaiser's government caused intense excitement there.

Under pressure from the Young China party, the older government leaders were prevailed upon to send what practically amounts to an ultimatum to Berlin, giving warning that unless there is a modification of the submarine warfare China will be compelled to sever relations. A copy of the note was sent to Dr. Paul Reinch, the American minister.

## TWENTY-FIVE MEN ARE GIVEN WORK

The Ottawa Phonograph Co., now has a force of twenty-five men at work in the manufacture of the talking machines and pianos. More will be added to the list when the company is running at full blast. The work of installing new machinery in the factory has been going on for the past two weeks and it will be only a matter of a short time before the concern will be operating at full capacity. The payroll for the last week was over \$400.

## EXTRA

TAKE MUNDAY CASE TO SUPREME COURT.

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 14.—In a hurried attempt to save C. B. Munday, Chicago banker from entering the penitentiary at Joliet, the first step to secure an appeal of the case to the supreme court was taken today. The records in the case, which was originally tried in circuit court at Morris, Ill., where Munday was convicted and the conviction upheld a short time ago by the appellate court in Ottawa were filed in the supreme court today. Application for a writ of supersedeas and bail will be made probably to-night or Thursday.

Munday was convicted on a charge of conspiracy in connection with the failure of the La Salle Street Bank of which he was president and in which ousted Senator William Lorimer was interested. Lorimer was freed after a trial.

## SCANDINAVIAN NATIONS PROTEST TO GERMANY.

London, Feb. 14.—The three Scandinavian countries—Norway, Sweden and Denmark, have joined in a protest to Germany against the new submarine warfare edict. According to a Reuter dispatch from Copenhagen. Each government has handed an identical note to its German minister.

## WANT TROOPS TO REENTER MEXICO FOR BANDITS.

El Paso, Feb. 14.—Urgent request that American troops be sent into Mexico to pursue the bandits who carried off three American motorists, was made to the army authorities today by A. P. Peterson, whose son, Andrew, is reported to be one of the captives.

The military authorities here are trying to learn the fate of the three men kidnapped in the raid in the "Corner Ranch" near Hachita, N. M. One report said that three motorists were killed and Peterson carried off. Other advice received by cattlemen said that three men were carried away but mentioned no killings.

The bandits are reported to have been led by Prudencio Miranda, who formerly fought with Villa. They crossed the border and surprised Peterson and other motorists who were rounding up cattle.

## AMERICAN SHIP LYMAAN M. LAW SUNK.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—The American sailing ship Lyman M. Law was sunk by a submarine, according to a Rome dispatch this afternoon. The crew, including several Americans, were reported saved. The vessel was owned by a New Haven company.

## MRS. ELLEN KELLY'S WILL IS FILED FOR PROBATE

The will of the late Mrs. Ellen Kelly, former Ottawalan, whose death occurred at Valparaiso, Ind., was filed here for probate today. Mrs. Kelly divides her estate, consisting of \$5,000 worth of East Ottawa real estate and \$1,750 in personal property, equally among her husband and children.

## COUNTY WOODMEN WILL MEET HERE

TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY WILL  
BE PRESENT AT GATHERING IN  
THIS CITY WILL CHOOSE DE-  
LEGATES TO STATE MEETING.

The annual county convention of La Salle county Woodmen will be held here Wednesday, April 4th, at which time delegates from thirty camps will gather here. The sessions will probably be held in Odd Fellows hall, although a definite meeting place has not been decided upon as yet.

It is expected that about two hundred and fifty delegates will attend the gathering here since each lodge is allowed one delegate for every twenty-five members. In Ottawa there are three camps made up of a total membership of seven hundred. It is estimated that there are about 5,000 Woodmen in La Salle county.

The meeting here will be for the purpose of transacting routine business and naming delegates to the state convention which will be held in Decatur some time during the month of May.

The national convention will be held in Chicago this year on June 19. Delegates to the national convention will be selected at the Decatur meeting.

While the gathering is being held here April 4, through the state of Illinois county gatherings will be held. Officers for the county organization will probably be elected. There will be no social affairs in connection with the meeting here in April and the business of the lodges will be transacted as quickly as possible so as to bring the gathering to a close at night.

## SUES HUSBAND FOR FARM RENT

Alleging that her husband is indebted to her for two years' farm rent, Mrs. Anna Kramer, of Mendota, this morning in the circuit court instituted proceedings on the law side of that tribunal to recover the moneys she claims is due her.

John Kramer is the defendant in the latest suit. In other action now pending in the same court Mrs. Kramer is suing him for separate maintenance. She claims an agreement exists in which he was to pay her \$1,000 a year for a 100 acre farm she owns and that there is now due two years' rent on the property.

The Kramers are prominent people residing in the northern part of the county. AAn estrangement separated them and they have been living apart for a long period. H. M. Kelly and E. E. Roberts represent Mrs. Kramer in her latest suit.

Investigators have found that electricity applied to soil that has been dampened with salt water will destroy insects without injury to growing crops.

## DISMISSED AMBASSADOR AND SUITE TAKE BOAT FOR HOME

## SENSATIONS CASE OPENS HERE TODAY

JOHN SCHIRADELLE, ALLEGED  
SOMONAUK DEGENERATE, TO  
FIGHT STEP-DAUGHTER'S AC-  
CUSATIONS—INDICTED FOR  
RAPE.

John Schiradelly, alleged Somonauk degenerate, is having his inning in the circuit court today. Not from where her accused traducer sits is Martha Schiradelly, seventeen years old step-daughter, upon whose information the state secured its grounds to prosecute Schiradelly on a charge of rape. The grand jury during its January sitting indicted the defendant on the strength of the girl's testimony while county authorities are confident they will experience little trouble securing his conviction.

Trim of figure and not bad to look at the complaining witness is the center of attraction in the crowded court room. Besides her sits the mother and Schiradelly's wife, whom he married a few years after Martha was born. Both appear determined to do their utmost to drive Schiradelly out of their lives by sending him to the penitentiary.

Hearing Opens This Morning.

The hearing opened before Judge Eldredge this morning and the task of selecting a jury was begun. Defending Schiradelly are Frank J. Harrison, of Streator, and Chester E. Jacobson, State's Attorney G. S. Wiley and his assistant H. C. Wiley are conducting the prosecution.

That Schiradelly will base his case upon stories told by him to representatives of the sheriff's office, is evidenced by questions being put to prospective jurors by the defendant's counsel. Schiradelly has stoutly maintained the girl willingly submitted herself to him and that he did not use violence while he attacked her. The assaults, according to the girl and her unnatural guardian, occurred between Sheridan Junction and their home near Somonauk.

Attacked While in Buggy.

Schiradelly had come for her to the farm where she was working and the attacks occurred while they were driving along a lonely country road, not far from Somonauk. The girl stoutly maintains that she was subdued by Schiradelly's superior strength and she firmly denies his story of "offering herself to him."

In his statements given to county officials Schiradelly frequently threatened to turn Somonauk, the home village, into turmoil should sentiment align itself with the girl. Foul of mouth he reiterated stories that would scandalize the village and its sedate residents if they are repeated upon the witness stand in the hearing that opens this morning. The names of prominent men were connected with Schiradelly's "History of Martha's Life."

Stories Unbelieved.

None of his accusations were given much credence by the state or sheriff's deputies. In his ravings Schiradelly charged his wife with faithlessness and conduct unbecoming a woman of good moral habits. These recollections landed upon unbelieving ears and Schiradelly was blamed with trying to clear his own skirts by defiling those of others. Happenings of unrestrained vulgarity were told by Schiradelly with naturalness that marked him as a pervers.

With all the odds against him, however, Schiradelly is not going to go to Joliet without fighting his way to the last trench. He is determined to expose everyone who accuses him and, if his past is a criterion, he will tell the same tales in the circuit court as he did before Squire George Koenig, when that worthy and hardened sheriffs were forced to blush at the villainy of their fellow. Whether or not the court, state and defense will be able to muffle him, is a problem that is causing considerable waging among court attaches.

Before his arrest on the more serious charge preferred against him Schiradelly was taken into custody for beating his step-daughter and driving her out of the house. She was found lying along side the road by a party of automobiles and taken into Somonauk. She told of her experience and warrants were sworn out against the step-father. Later the charge was dropped, the girl and her mother both claim they did this for fear of Schiradelly and what he might do to them.

Secure Jury.

At one-fifty o'clock this afternoon the twelve men for the jury were se-

(Continued on Page 3.)

## EVERY PRECAUTION TAKEN TO GUARD DEPARTING GERMAN COUNT

## GUARDS ARE ON TRAIN

BERNSTORFF AND PARTY ARRIVE  
IN HOBOKEN AND ARE ESCORTED  
TO FREDERICK VIII ON SEC-  
OND LAP OF HOMEWARD JOUR-  
NEY.

Hoboken, N. J., Feb. 14.—With a courtesy and marked attention seldom if ever accorded any guests of the nation, Count Johann von Bernstorff, dismissed German Ambassador, and his official family, were escorted aboard the Scandinavian American Liner Frederick VIII, today for the second stage of their long journey to Berlin. The train from Washington bearing the party reached Hoboken at 5:50 and the party transferred to the liner before 8 o'clock.

The departure of the Frederick VIII may be delayed until late this evening. She was originally scheduled to sail at 2 p. m., but line officials declared that the unusually heavy cargo could not be loaded by that time.

Every precautionary measure that could possibly be devised to insure the safety and comfort of the departing Germans was taken by a small army of government secret service men, augmented by scores of Hoboken police and members of Collector Malone's neutrality squad.

Around the big liner played a patrol of police boats. The pier was a barred zone, through which no one could pass unless he had a card personally signed by Collector Malone.

The train that brought the party from Washington was guarded to minute perfection. The German special section consisting of five pullmans, which were sealed up on leaving Washington. The train did not stop after leaving the capital until it drew into Hoboken.

Secret service operatives were stationed at the entrance of every car and these were reinforced by hundreds of police and special guards in Hoboken.

An engine preceded the train from Washington to "Test" the tracks. Thus had a bomb been placed on the right of way, it would never have reached the train.

William J. Flynn, chief of the government's secret service himself took charge of the situation, when the train arrived. The five special cars were unhitched at Jersey Junction and shunted to the Erie tracks. Then another special train preceded the special section to Hoboken.

One hundred uniformed policemen lined up abreast on either side of the train at the point of detainment.

Count Von Bernstorff, with he Countess on his arm appeared on the black platform shortly before 8 o'clock. The dismissed Ambassador appeared to be in excellent spirits. With a good natured grin he consented to pose for the cameramen.

"How are you feeling?" cried one. "Fine," said the count.

Count Von Bernstorff declined to say anything to the reporters. "You see," he smiled, "I said everything in Washington."

With the battery of cameras going full blast the Count and Countess entered an automobile to go to the vessel. Chief Flynn and Captain John Henry of the Secret Service, entered the car with them. On either running board stood two operatives. The three blocks to the pier were lined with police and special guards.

The party boarded the vessel before 8:30 o'clock and retired immediately to the various suites allotted them.

## 67 AMERICANS ON SHIP AS IT SAILS

NEW YORK, Feb. 14.—The French liner Espagne, carrying 67 Americans among her 230 passengers, sailed for Bordeaux today. To reach her destination she must pass through the "barred zone."

Most of the Americans aboard are volunteers for the American Ambulance corps in France.

The Holland-American liner Ryn-dam reached port here today. She was recalled while en route to Rotterdam just as she was about to enter the danger zone.

Carmania is Safe.

NEW YORK, Feb. 14.—The Cunard liner Carmania, which sailed from New York on February 4 with a cargo of munitions, has successfully negotiated the submarine zone. Private advices here today were that the vessel reached Liverpool this morning.